

Citizens Clean Elections Commission

1616 W. Adams, Suite 110 • Phoenix, AZ • 85007

Phone: 1.602.364.3477

Fax: 1.602.364.3487



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For more information, contact Michael Becker at (602) 364-3477.

Citizens Clean Elections Commission Gives \$20 Million to Arizona's General Fund

Money will help state with its current budget crisis

PHOENIX, (November 18, 2010) – The Citizens Clean Elections Commission, the state agency that administers the Citizens Clean Elections Act, will give \$20 million to the state's general fund. This brings the total contributed in 2010 to the fund to \$30 million. More than \$64 million has been given to the state's general fund since 2003.

"Given our state's fiscal deficit, the Commissioners want to support the State as much as possible," said Todd Lang, Commission Executive Director. "This badly needed transfusion of funds would not be available to the State were it not for the existence of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission."

The Commission does not receive any funding from the state Legislature. Instead it receives funding from a 10 percent surcharge on all civil penalties and criminal fines, a voluntary \$5 check-off on the state income tax form, voluntary donations from individuals as well as \$5 qualifying contributions collected by candidates running for legislative and statewide offices.

About the Citizens Clean Elections Commission

The Citizens Clean Elections Act, which was passed by voters in 1998, created a new campaign financing system that provides full public funding to qualified candidates who agree to abide by Citizens Clean Elections Commission guidelines. Candidates for statewide and legislative offices are eligible to participate in the public funding program.

To qualify for funding, participating candidates gathered \$5 qualifying contributions from constituents who were registered voters. Participating candidates also adhere to strict spending and contribution limits and agree to attend required workshops and debates.

For more information visit the Citizens Clean Elections Commission website: www.azcleanelections.gov

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